



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Ijdo et al.

Attorney Docket No.
051344-5037

Application No. 10/620,617

Filed: July 17, 2003

Group Art Unit: 1755

For: VISCOSITY STABLE
SMECTITE CLAY SLURRIES

Examiner: Michael A. Marcheschi

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on June 21, 2006, the Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks herein. A Request for Continued Examination and the appropriate fees therefore, are submitted herewith and form a part hereof.

This Response is being timely filed in view of the accompanying Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time and associated fee, which extends the deadline for responding to and through December 21, 2006.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8

I hereby certify that this paper and documents and/or fees referred to herein as transmitted, submitted or enclosed are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450; Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Name: Dana M. Kolesar Signature: Dana Kolesar Date: December 20, 2006